MONTEREY COUNTY

Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XV—NO. 47 SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1953 WHOLE NO. 769

Greatest, 37th Rodeo to Draw Throngs

Contract Signup Pressed By Area Laborer Unions

Officials of the three Laborers Unions in the Monterey Bay Area joined last week in reporting good progress in signing contractors to individual contracts calling for wage increases of 15 cents an hour for laborers.

Meanwhile, Paul Burnett, business agent of Santa Cruz Laborers 283, was called to San Francisco last Friday and Saturday to attend negotiations with the Associated General Contractors in an effort to gain a master agreement for all member contractors in 46 northern California counties. No report of progress had been made at this report.

In Monterey, officials of several unions in the county met with contractor representatives last Thursday to talk over the laborer strike and the subsequent shutdown of all AGC jobs. No progress was made in this meeting.

Attending the Monterey session were George Jenkins and Les Estes of Laborers 690, Thomas Eide of Carpenters 1323, Harvey B. Baldwin and Al Miller of Carpenters 925, Mike Craner of Watsonville Carpenters 771, and contractor representatives.

It was reported that several offers below the 15 cents asked by the laborers have been made, and rejected by the unions.

While negotiations with the AGC are underway, more and more contractors are meeting the new laborer wage demand and resuming their projects, it was announced.

Building Trades Elects-Thursday

Election of officers of the Monterey County Building Trades Council will be chief business at this Thursday night's meeting at Cominos Hotel in Salinas.

In nominations as reported following last week's meeting were indications that several close contests and a number of newcomers in key offices will report. Nominations are:

For president—John Grison (Monterey Plumbers) and George Jenkins (Monterey Laborers).

For first vice president—E. R. Arbuckle (Salinas Plumbers) and Dial H. Miles (Salinas Electricians).

For second vice president—A. J. Castle (Monterey Painters).

For financial secretary—Lloyd Long (Salinas Plumbers).

For recording secretary—Dial H. Miles (Salinas Electricians) and K. Robertson (Monterey Brick Masons).

For sergeant-at-arms—Wray D. Empie (Salinas Laborers) and A. J. Castle (Monterey Painters).

Sal. Carpenters Keeping Active

Despite the strike of laborers and the shutdown by contractors of many jobs, members of Salinas Carpenters Union 925 have been kept busy, Business Agent Harvey B. Baldwin reports.

When the work stoppage first started, a number of carpenters were among those laid off but as more and more contractors signed with the laborers, the unemployment of carpenters dropped to a low point, Baldwin explained.

Isaacson Heads Mont. Painters

William Isaacson has been named as financial secretary and business agent of Monterey Painters Union 272. He succeeds Fred E. Ask, who retired after two years in the post. Ask said press of personal affairs necessitated his retirement from the union position.

Get yourself in the "know." Don't rely on unauthorized information on your social security. It may cost you money. See your local social security office for advice on the best time to file for benefits.

LABORERS SETTLE A.G.C. WAGE BEEF

As we go to press, word is received that the Northern California laborers have settled their wage beef with the AGC, the latter agreeing to meet the 15c increase ($2 scale) asked by the union.

Plenty of Jobs for Graduates—Durkin

High school graduates and other young persons seeking employment this spring or summer should not have much difficulty getting jobs.

Secretary of Labor Martin P. Durkin said that replacement needs of industries in this period of record-breaking employment will provide a large number of job opportunities.

76% of Workers Vote for Unions

Seventy-six per cent of workers voting in representation elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board during the first quarter of 1953 voted to be represented by unions in dealing with their employers.

Many Builders In Salinas Area Resume Projects

Laborers Union 272 of Salinas reports many contractors have signed the new agreement with the union, with the 15c an hour wage increase. Bus. Agt. Wray D. Empie said the bulk of the Laborers' membership is employed.

Barry Richards Co., building the low-cost housing projects, signed the new contract and welfare plan and is resuming work. Jannock Nursery, of Altadena, also signed the pacts and is doing landscaping at the housing projects.

Vacuum Cooling Construction Co., the Al Everly Plumbing Co., Ivan Keen Co. and J&M Builders has also signed up and have resumed their jobs. The latter firm has a housing tract in Gonzales.

Work on the Union Ice Co. project has been started up again by Dresser Cooling Co. of Southgate and Associated Refrigeration Engineers of Los Angeles, both of which signed contracts, Empie reported.

LITTLE LEAGUE TEAMS POPULAR

Most popular sporting events in Salinas currently are the Little League baseball games, played by youngsters between ages of 9 and 12 and conducted just as major league baseball.

Three AFL unions in Salinas sponsor Little League teams: Carpenters 925, Teamsters 890, and Retail Clerks 839. The games are played at Robertson Park and at Rodeo Park, with the schedule resuming on Monday evening with doubleheader contests at 5:30 and 7 p.m.

Carp. Council Meets in S.C.

Election of officers is principal business for the Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters at its regular meeting in Santa Cruz Veterans Hall on Tuesday night of this week.

Business also was to include discussion of the Laborers' strike situation and other labor problems.

Tom Eide of Monterey is the incumbent president, with Leo Thiltgen, aiso of Monterey, as secretary.

Miles Attends IBEW Confab

Dial H. Miles, business manager of Salinas Electrical workers Union 243, was in Oakland last week to attend the Northern California Joint Executive Conference.

There is a social security office near your home. If you do not know where it is, your local post office can advise you.

SALINAS, OLD WEST CAPITAL, THIS WEEK

Greatest Old West festival in its history will be staged by the Salinas area this week, and a record number of visitors, many from distant states, will be on hand to join in the 37th Annual Rodeo, sterling example of western spirit, tradition, and entertainment.

The city, all of its occupants, and the thousands of visitors will all be in the holiday mood, both in costume and in attitude, and the most colorful four-day program yet presented is on the schedule starting Thursday.

Organized Labor of this area, with its thousands of friends and relatives in nearby as well as more distant cities, will join the celebration, helping by work or by play to make it a success.

Ten-gallon sombreros, multi-colored shirts, levis, and western boots are the dress of the day this week in Salinas, as championship cowboys, some 400 in number, arrive to compete for titles and for purses totaling $50,000.

A spectacular chuck wagon race will highlight the big radio program, and there will be many other program features, including a daily 1,000-horse cowboy parade, Sweetheart of the Rodeo contest, folk dance jamboree, children's parade, and a night float parade—Colmo del Rodeo—to be held Saturday night.

Bands, music, dancing—saddle, bareback, Brahma bull riding — death-defying races, thrills, chills, wild horse racing, trick riders — champ horses and riders, best western outfit contests—all these and more in this year's 37th Rodeo, which is moved up from the earlier June dates of other years to the more convenient July dates.

Saturday night's great parade will have sweepstake awards, many visiting entries, military, school, music, drum, drill and majorette groups. Theme of the parade is "A Thousand and One Holidays", and this will give all groups an opportunity to emphasize their particular holidays or annual celebrations.

SANTA CRUZ BARBECUE PLANS LAID

Planning was started last week for the annual Labor Day celebration and barbecue outing this year scheduled September 7, at De Laveaga Park.

Paul Burnett, past president of the Santa Cruz Labor Council which sponsors the annual event will be general chairman again this year. Burnett's energetic efforts have made the barbecues great successes in past years.

The labor council has named its entertainment committee to assist Burnett in the arrangements, including Bill Kretz, Dorothy McCalmon, Emma Putnam, and others, according to Secretary Thomas H. Deane.

All unions in the county and surrounding areas are invited to join the celebration again this year. There will be a very short program of introductions, contests, games, a delicious barbecued beef dinner, and special events. Tickets will be issued in a short time, Burnett said.

Don't turn your back on economic freedom—the union!

Monterey Carp. Auxiliary Plans 'Rummage Sale'

The Ladies Auxiliary of Monterey Carpenters Union 1323 will hold a "rummage sale" shortly, probably at some store in Seaside, but day and place have not been announced.

Mrs. H. G. Hall, chairman of arrangements, and Mrs. Clyde Sweat, co-chairman, said that four "collection stations" have been set up to accept items from members for the sale.

Auxiliary members may leave any items for the rummage sale at homes of the following:

Mrs. H. G. Hall, 837 Oak St., Seaside.

Mrs. Alice Chappell, 839 Newton St., Monterey.

Mrs. Byron McCullough, 509 Hamilton Ave., Seaside.

Mrs. Robert Dalton, 864 Congress St., Pacific Grove.

At the last meeting of the auxiliary, discussion of the by-laws was held, it was reported.

Salinas Council Picks Delegates

Two delegates have been named by the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas to attend the annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor in San Francisco starting Aug. 10.

The delegates are Alfred J. Clark, council secretary-treasurer, and Dial H. Miles, business manager of Electrical Workers Union 243.

At the last council meeting, final plans were made for the float to be entered by the labor council in the annual Salinas Rodeo parade Saturday night.

Council officers were scheduled to be installed at a meeting on Friday night.

Empie Awaits Vacation Trip

Wray D. ("Bill") Empie, business agent of Salinas Laborers Union 272, is delaying his vacation this year because of the unsettled laborer contract situation. Empie said he hopes to take a week of rest as soon as possible.

Lillian Johnson, office secretary for Laborers Union 272, was due back this week after a prolonged vacation trip to Nevada and Idaho.

Labor Gains Injury Benefit

Vincent Perry, Sr., member of Laborers Union 690 of Monterey who suffered loss of an eye while at work on the Del Webb project recently, has won full insurance benefits.

Armstrong Wins Mont. Culinary Bartender Vote

Robert Armstrong, acting business agent of Monterey Culinary Alliance and Bartenders Union 483 since the retirement of Royal E. Hallmark two months ago, was elected secretary-treasurer of the union at last week's elections.

Retained as union president in the interestingly contested election was Robert S. Harrington, veteran of two years in this office.

The officers of Local 483 for the coming term are:

President — Robert S. Harrington.

Vice President—Delfin Rondario.

Secretary-treasurer — Robert Armstrong.

Executive board — Lou Gold, Jim Dunn, Jerry Miller and Avis Ward.

Recording secretary — Esther Campbell.

Inspector—Gertrude Phillips.

Chaplain — Sonyja du Gardyn.

Guard — Angelo Bethanes.

Trustees — Frank Noll, Glenn O. Taylor and Cornelius von Peski.

SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

AFL Success Depends On Local Membership

El Paso, Texas.—Success of the AFL depends on the local member because federation programs start at the bottom and work up, AFL Organizing Director Harry O'Reilly told the Texas State Federation of Labor.

O'Reilly declared that the AFL has made a phenomenal record of obtaining higher wages, better conditions, shorter hours, more security, pensions and health and welfare programs for working people.

MEAT UNIONS TO COOPERATE IN NEGOTIATIONS, ORGANIZING

Chicago (LPA)—An agreement providing for joint action in wage negotiations and organizing campaigns by the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen and the CIO United Packinghouse Workers of America was announced July 2 by Amalgamated Pres. Earl W. Jimerson and UPWA Pres. Ralph Helstein.

The 11-point pact established machinery for the two unions to work together in negotiations affecting nearly 250,000 employees of the Big Four meat packers—Swift, Armour, Cudahy and Wilson—and major independent firms. First objective is a meeting between the packers and a committee representing both unions on the current contract reopener covering wages and hospitalization.

The Memorandum of Understanding, ratified unanimously by the international executive boards of both unions, was prompted by the realization that "the attacks of reaction on the American labor movement will continue to grow in intensity," said the joint statement. "Both organizations recognize the real solution to the problems of the American worker rests in the eventual unity of all labor organizations in one federation.

"It is our hope and desire that such objectives can be realized, and to that end we will continue our efforts to achieve organic unity of all workers within the jurisdiction of our two organizations and the labor movement as a whole. The pressure of the present needs of the workers in our industry requires, however, that the unions in this field immediately establish machinery for cooperative action which cannot await achievement of the ultimate objective of complete unity."

The unions agreed not to raid each other in the future and to halt immediately all current raiding activity, and in cases where an election contest becomes necessary to refrain from any action "designed to discredit or malign the other union." The memorandum also provides for both unions to exchange information on plants, locations, contracts, wage rates and related matters. In organizing plants of Swift & Co. where the workers are now represented by a company union, jurisdiction is to be assigned to the union with the greatest strength in the particular locality.

The agreement, going far beyond any plan of cooperation worked out in the past between the unions, includes: (1) "Every effort" to conduct wage negotiations with companies whose employees are represented by both unions in joint sessions with committees of both unions present and participating; (2) Refusal by either union to reach a settlement with such companies without first obtaining approval of the other union;

(3) Joint economic action against employers whenever necessary "to the extent reasonable and practicable"; (4) "All lawuful support and assistance" by one union to the other in cases where the latter has established authorized picket lines or is engaged in other authorized economic action;

(5) Joint meetings of the negotiating committees of both unions, including local union representatives, to receive recommendations on the conduct of negotiations with the Big Four and to reach agreement on policies; (6) Joint conferences, when advisable, attended by appropriate national and local representatives of both unions, to discuss mutual problems; (7) Joint negotiations and consolidation of bargaining activity in such fields as smaller packing companies, branch houses, poultry plants and stockyards.



Union Aide Heads Groups Fighting for Hell's Canyon

Portland, Ore. (LPA)—James T. Marr was elected president of the National Hell's Canyon Association at an organization meeting here of farm, labor, public power and other groups. They represent more than a million voters in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.

The Association will fight against the give-away of the Northwest's best available storage dam site to the Idaho Power Co.

Marr, who is executive secretary of the Oregon State Feedration of Lahor, invited other groups and individuals seeking maximum development of the land and water resources of the Northwest to join the association.

"This is one of the important issues of our generation," Marr said. "Hell's Canyon is the symbol of the fight. Will plans for full, multi-purpose development of our rivers for benefit of the people continue, or will they be junked and the rivers divided among private power interests for piecemeal exploitation of electricity alone? Outcome of the fight is of utmost importance to everyone in this region because our economic life depends on having an abundant supply of low-cost public power."

Marr explained that if the Federal Power Commission grants Idaho Power Co. permission to build its Oxbow dam, construction of the high Hell's Canyon dam will be impossible.

The association will employ the engineers, technical assistance and legal staff needed to carry the people's case before the Commission when hearings start in Washington, D.C., July 7.

Members of the board of directors include Ed Weston, president, Washington State Federation of Labor; George Brown, secretary-treasurer, Oregon Industrial Union Council (CIO).

When Oscar Chapman was Secretary of the Interior, he favored federal development of the Hell's Canyon site, the most important single waterpower site remaining in the U.S. But when the Eisenhower "business men's administration came in, the atmosphere changed. Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay withdrew his objections, thus giving the Idaho Power Co. the green light to go ahead.

In doing so McKay suppressed a 91-page engineering report which demolished the private utility propaganda and declared that the Hell's Canyon multiple-purpose scheme "is from all points of view superior to the schemes proposed by the Idaho Power Co."

That report was given to McKay Feb. 25, and is the only complete study of public vs private plans for Hell's Canyon. Rep. Gracie Pfost (D., Idaho), and Sen. Warren Magnuson (D., Wash.) have tried to force McKay to make the report public. He has refused.

It takes only a few minutes for an experienced service station attendant to check the condition of a battery. If a battery is weak, it probably needs recharging or replacing. Mechanical causes of battery trouble should be corrected immediately to protect this vital part of your automobile.

Big Shell Refinery

Shell Oil Co. has picked a site at Anacortes, Wash., for its new $75-million oil refinery, and work will start soon. The refinery will have a capacity of 50,000 barrels daily and employ 1,500 workers.



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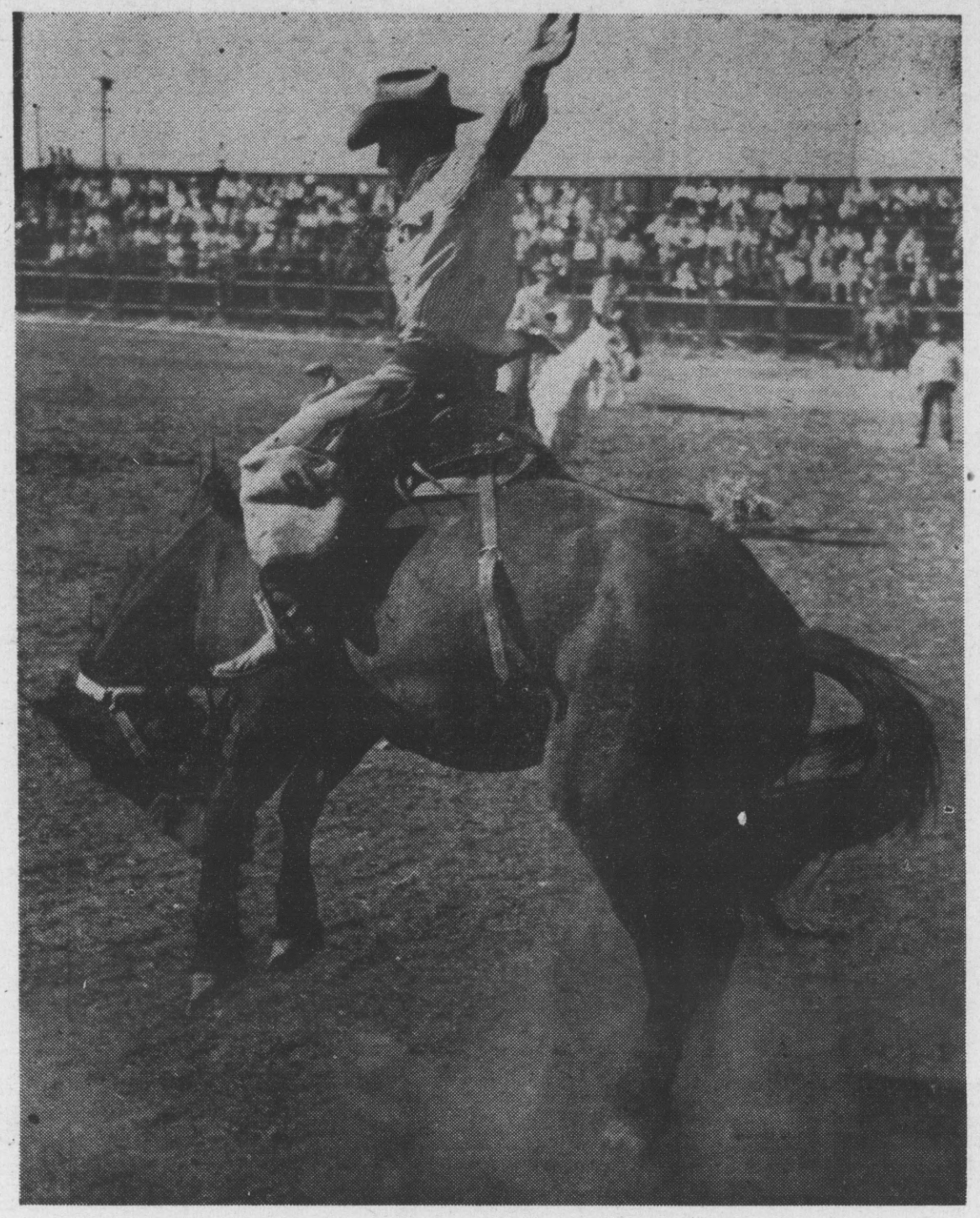
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American Labor Can Boost Buying Power 3% a Year, Study Says

New York (LPA)—The American wage earner, through higher production and collective bargaining by trade unions, can probably increase the buying power of his hourly wages over the next decade or two at an average of 2½ to 3 per cent a year, according to a five-year study of wages and employment trends in this country.

The study, prepared for publication late in July by the Twentieth Century Fund under the title "Employment and Wages in the United States," draws a clear picture of the relationship of wages, productivity and prices in the American economy.

It argues that if money wages as a whole rise faster than productivity, the price level is pushed up, cancelling some of the gain of the worker. The authors contend that wage earners as a group cannot increase their real earnings much faster than the over-all rise in the nation's productivity.

But this does not mean, they stress, that wages could be set by central authority according to a formula based on productivity, or anything else. They believe that collective bargaining between employer and employes, responsive to supply and demand and the bargaining power of the two parties, is the only basic wage-setting process that will work within our democratic traditions.

The study cites the principle that "labor unions are the mainsprings that move the mechanism of supply and demand in wage determination."

The study notes, however, that recently both labor and management have been increasingly concerned with finding long-range policies to give some guidance in wage negotiations. It points to the wage-productivity relationship as one such principle: that without precluding adjustment of particular wage rates, such a relationship would establish a point around which adjustments in wage rates should be clustered.

The authors further contend that acceptance of this principle by both parties would change the psychological climate of collective bargaining.

Describing the broad purposes and background of the study, W. S. Woytinsky, who directed the project, said July 5: "We realize that collective bargaining implies differences of opinion between the two parties, differences that—hopefully—will be settled by negotiation.

"In our study we don't try to minimize the differences between management and labor, nor do we go seeking some universal formula that would reconcile the two parties and remove the possibility of labor disputes. Such a quest would be foolish and utopian.

"We are convinced, however, that collective bargaining would be more effective and disputes leading to interruption of production would be less frequent and less expensive for both parties if they could start from the same frame of reference and the same understanding and interpretation of certain facts of life.

"Our survey of wages and employment is an attempt to establish such a frame of reference, equally acceptable to enlightened management, union leaders and arbitrators of labor disputes. This is not an appeal to mutual understanding and tolerance but a display of facts and figures, historical trends and economic outlook related to issues discussed in collective bargaining."

Business Good For the Banks

New York (LPA)—Net profits of the nation's major banks were almost nine per cent higher for the first half of 1953 than for the corresponding period of 1952. Most of the increase came from the increased volume of loans made by the banks, plus the higher interest rates they charged. Gross earnings were the best since World War II.

Bank of America, the nation's largest, reported earnings of $1.45 a share, against $1.29 in the same period of last year; Manufacturers Trust of New York, fourth largest, $1.44 and $1.30; Irving Trust, 42c and 40c; Public National Bank & Trust, $1.96 and $1.77; National City Bank, $2.07 and $1.90.

Net Profits Up 27%

New York (LPA)—American Enka Corporation increased net profits 27 per cent on an increase of 24 per cent in sales in the 24 weeks ended June 14. Enka, rayon yarn manufacturers, recently entered the nylon field. Net profits were $3,170,907, or $2.84 a share against $2.23 in the same period in 1952.

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Stones vs. Tanks

Uprisings of working people in East Germany and Czechoslovakia emphasize what the AFL has been saying all along —that free trade unions are the bases of free democracy.

Hitler and Stalin realized this when, as one of their first acts, they took freedom away from labor organizations, and made them tools of the state.

But the spirit of freedom cannot be easily killed. In Czechoslovakia and East Germany, the working people were no longer able to stand the oppression of Communist dictatorship, and though they had but stones against tanks, they arose.

They were asking only what free trade unions want everywhere: Bread, Peace, and Freedom.

The Communist governments replied with guns.

The hopeful aspect is that these uprisings, tragic though they may be, are signs of growing weakness in Communist regimes.

Communism cannot hope to maintain indefinitely power by force in countries that have once known freedom.

Congressional Comedy

Rep. Joel Broyhill would have you believe that the current wave of firings of career civil service employes in non-political jobs is all a Truman plot.

The young Republican, who represents a Virginia district consisting mainly of Washington suburbs, says that second-level "Truman holdovers" are embarrassing the Eisenhower Administration by discharging veteran government workers.

Even Broyhill's Republican cohorts on Capitol Hill can see what is bothering him. It is this:

A lot of people in his district who had worked for the government during both Republican and Democratic Administrations voted for Broyhill and Gen. Eisenhower after receiving promises from both gentlemen that civil service employees need not fear for their jobs if the Republicans were elected. But many have gotten the axe in the last 3 months.

And all that poor Broyhill can do is to holler that it's a nasty Democratic scheme!

Thanks to Broyhill for a little comic relief during these tense and feverish days.

Health and Socialism

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, revealed that only 10 per cent of the amount needed by the voluntary National Fund for Medical Education is now available.

The fund was established to help medical schools pay their bills and to train more doctors and other health personnel. Mrs. Hobby told the American Medical Association that the schools' "financial crisis is still growing."

The fact that educational facilities for our future doctors cannot be given more than tiny bits of aid through voluntary contributions by corporations and individuals is to be regretted.

More to be regretted, however, is the fact that any move to allow the government to help the schools is immediately termed "Socialistic" by the organized medical profesion and Mrs. Hobby herself.



THOMAS EIDE
Bus. Agt. Monterey Carpenters Union 1323

One of the basic considerations of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance under the Social Security Act is that it will, in part, replace income lost through retirement or death of the breadwinner.

It was never intended that Social Security benefits would entirely compensate a worker or his family for income lost by retirement or death. It was intended, and remains a basic factor in the law, that these benefits would provide a financial floor below which the beneficiary would not go. In other words, Old-Age and Survivors Insurance benefits are designed to meet the basic needs of a family group.

Where income has not been lost for either of these two reasons, there is no need for paying Social Security benefits. This has been taken into consideration by Congress through insertion of a "work clause" in the law. This work clause means that no benefits are payable to a beneficiary for any month in which he earns more than $75 in employment covered by the Social Security law. While $75 may appear to be a relatively small amount, especially in view of the present day cost of living, it is considerably more than the average benefit payment.

If auxiliary beneficiaries, such as wives, widows, children and parents, have earnings of more than $75 monthly, their benefits must be suspended for such months. Their suspended benefits will have no effect upon the other members of the family who are receiving benefits. On the other hand, if the breadwinner works for earnings of more than $75 monthly, all auxiliary benefits will be suspended, in addition to that of the breadwinner. Suspension of benefits for this reason is effective only for so long as the individual is so employed. When the individual is no longer earning more than $75 monthly, his benefit payments are reinstated.

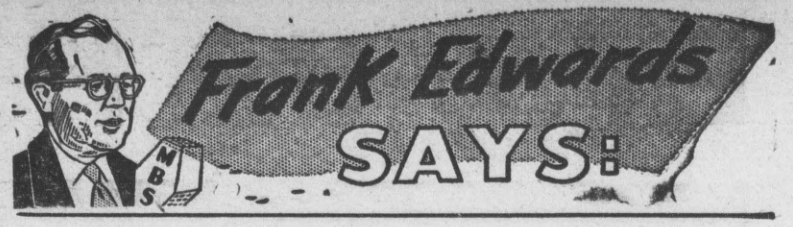
The major reason the law does have a work clause is that without it there would be a tremendous increase in the cost of benefit payments. Statistics show that the average worker retires at 68½ instead of age 65. Were it not for the work clause, this would mean that the average benefit payments to a retired worker would run for 3½ years more than they do at the present time, with a consequent increase in the cost. The Social Security Administration estimates that for the year 1953 alone, the increased cost in benefit payments would be more than one and one-tenth billion dollars, were the work clause to be eliminated.

Congress, in passing the Social Security law, adhered to the principle that the benefits are designed to replace lost income. This has held true throughout the various amendments to the original Social Security law. Therefore, the work clause continues to be an integral part of the benefit system. The Social Security law could be amended to provide an annuity at age 65. Of course, the cost of paying this annuity—regardless of a person's employment status—would be increased considerably. An annuity at age 65 is not necessarily designed to replace lost income. A provision such as this would be contrary to the basic principle of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.

The tax, or contribution rate, is set at a figure which does not provide an annuity at age 65. Instead, it has always been set at a figure which permits the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to meet its primary objective — replacing, in part, income lost through death or retirement of the breadwinner.

For further information on these or any other points regarding your Social Security, get in touch with the Social Security Field Office at the address below.

Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone CYpress 2-2480.



Washington, D. C.

• *Squeeze Play:*

Many Congressmen are irate over the high-handed fashion in which the Defense Department has been squeezing out small manufacturers in favor of the billion-dollar boys. You can expect this one to break into the open soon:

Pennsylvania Rubber Co. of Jeannette, Pa., was low bidder on a million-dollar contract for making 180,000 gas masks. The contract would have meant a great deal to the community where the Pennsylvania rubber factory is situated. But at the last minute, the axe fell. The Chemical Warfare Department let the giant Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. have the order—on the ground that Firestone had brought its price down to that of the low bidder.

When big business runs the show, small business must run for its life.

• *Profits Before Principles . . .*

The Attorney General's office is working on the details of another deal which will cost the veterans millions of dollars. Mr. Brownell has okayed the legislation which would permit sale of the General Analine and Film Co. to a private outfit. General Analine was a German-owned property seized by the U. S. during World War Two under the Alien Property Act. It is supposed to be sold so that the proceeds can be used to pay American boys who were held prisoner by the enemy during World War Two—boys who have not been paid because the War Claims Commission has run out of funds. Here is the joker which fleeces the veterans: General Analine is worth about $120 million but the government is proposing to turn it over to private owners at the giveaway price of $60 million. If that deal goes through, the GI's who were prisoners will be the losers by $60 million.

• *Behind the Scenes:*

The Administration is quietly laying plans to push for universal military training. The tipoff comes in the President's request for more money to run the National Security Training Commission—which is in reality a steering committee for universal military training.

JOKES. Etc.

The bachelor was paying a visit to the home of a friend, a married man, and found himself rather bored by all the talk about the son and heir of the house.

"Just fancy," said the adoring mother, "he's only 17 months old and he's been walking for nearly nine months."

"Really!" said the visitor wearily, "don't you think it's about time he sat down for awhile?"

* * *

There's this about a woman's weight:

She always wants to change it,
To put some on or take some off—
Or just to rearrange it.

A man with a little black bag knocked on the front door of a large dilapidated house.

"Come in, come in," greeted the father of 14 children, "and I sure hope you're the piano tuner!"

* * *

"When I was a young man," the father told his indolent son, "I worked 12 hours every day."

"I admire your youthful energy, Dad," answered the modern lad, "but I admire still more the mature wisdom that led you to stop it."

* * *

A woman had advertised for a maid and was interviewing an applicant. But suddenly the applicant interrupted to ask:

"Do you do your own stretching?"

And, when the prospective employer looked puzzled, she added:

"You know. Do I put all the food on the table and you stretch for it, or must I keep shuffling it around?"

* * *

"I got a pearl out of an oyster," said the youngster.

"That's nothing," replied the second young 'un. "My sister got a real diamond out of an old crab."

* * *

The difference between in-laws and outlaws is that in-laws promise to pay you back.

* * *

A nickel goes a long way these days. You can carry one for several days before you find anything it will buy.

* * *

who is stuck on himself. He is stuck with himself also.

* * *

ALWAYS LATE

"Say, you've really got the latest thing in stenographers!"

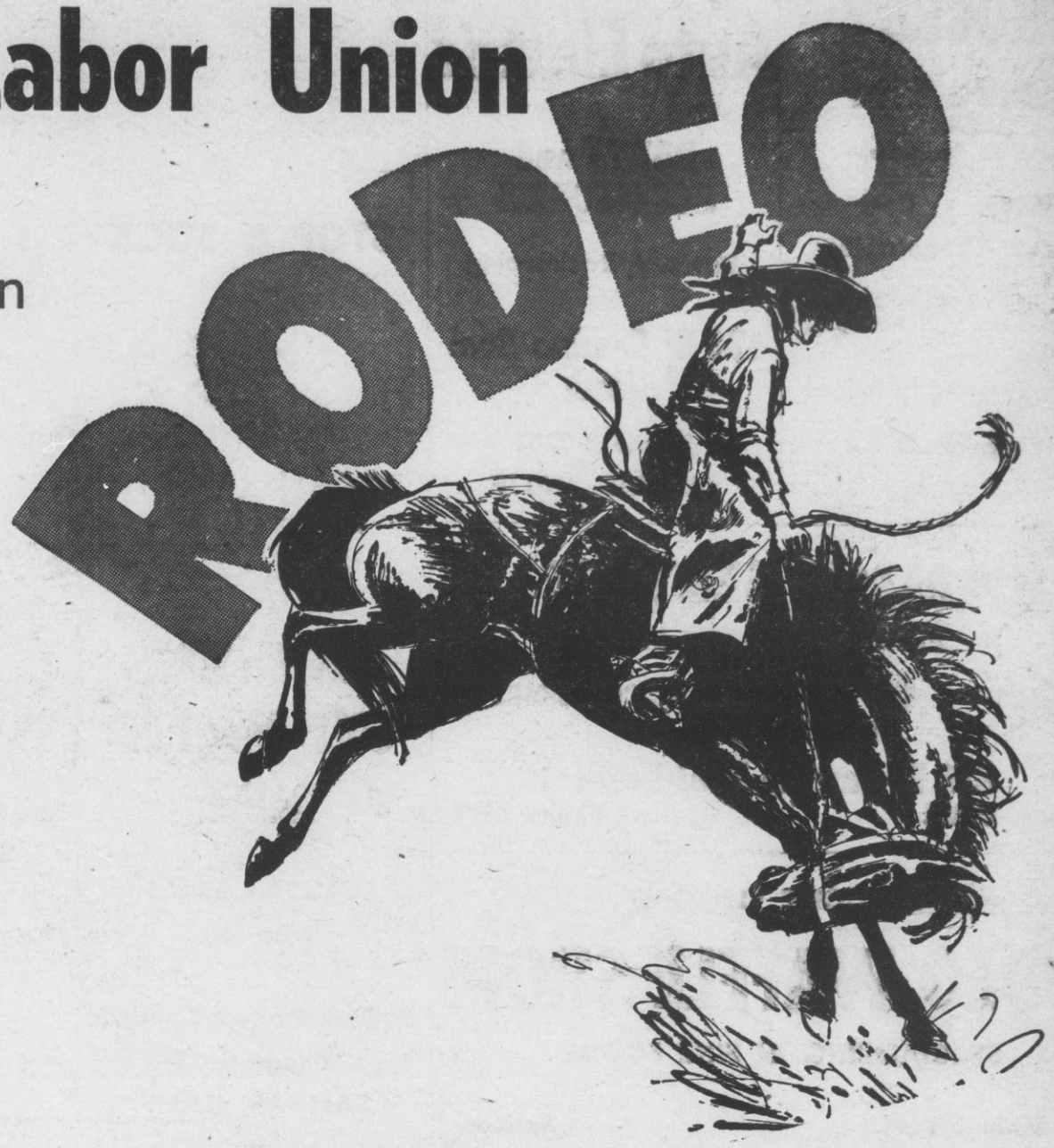
"She is certainly that. Never gets here 'til 10 o'clock."

"UNION MAID" —A Serial Story

by Stan Jennings



The Monterey County Central Labor Union



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Building Service Employees Union, No. 77
Butchers Union, Local No. 506
Carpenters Union, Local No. 925
Cleaners and Dyers Union, Local No. 258-B
Electrical Workers Union, Local No. 243
Engineers Union, Local No. 39
Hotel & Restaurant Employees & Bartenders Union, Local No. 355
Laborers & Hod Carriers Union, Local No. 272
Laundry Workers Union, Local No. 258
Musicians Union, Local No. 616
Motion Picture Operators Union, Local No. 611
Mechanics and Machinists Union, Local No. 1824
Office Employees Union, Local No. 94
Painters & Paperhangers Union, Local No. 1104
Pressmen & Assistants' Union, Local No. 328
Retail Clerks Union, Local No. 839
Roofers Union, Local No. 50
Sugar Workers Union, Local No. 20616
Teachers Union, Local No. 1020
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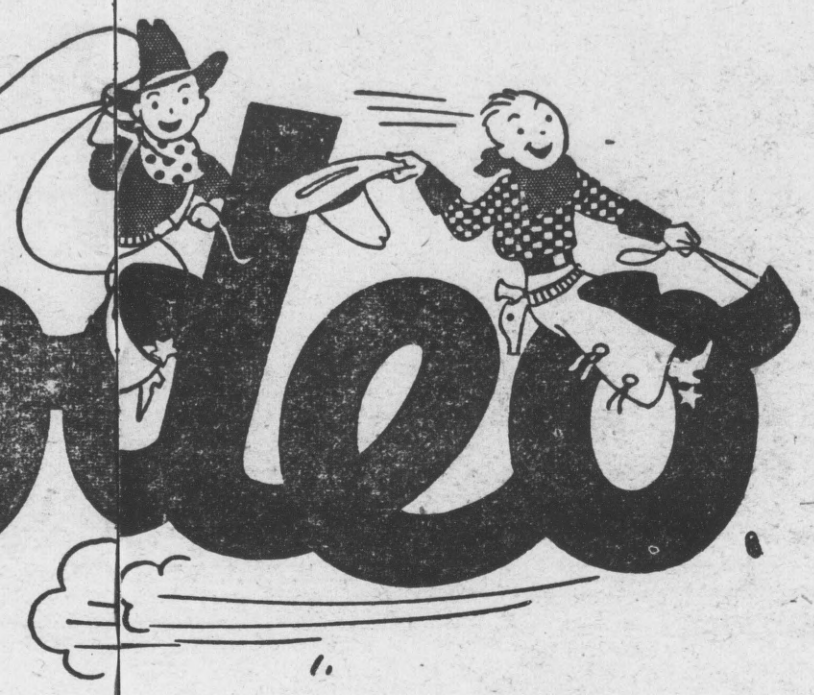
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Public Employees Conference Set In S.F., Aug. 8-9

All California AFL unions and councils having among their members or affiliates public employees working for either the federal, state or local governments or any political subdivisions will have a chance next month to talk over and act on the special problems of workers in this type of employment.

The opportunity will come at a session of the Public Employees Conference to be held Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 8 and 9, at 240 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco. All unions or councils with members in public employment are eligible to participate.

Representation will be on a basis of up to three delegates for local unions, one delegate for councils. Credentials must be in at least three days before the meeting. Participation in the meeting is arranged through John F. Condon, secretary treasurer, 319 Avenue "E," Redondo Beach, Calif.

The Public Employees Conference is affiliated with the California State Federation of Labor. Besides Condon, its officers are Pres. Ralph A. McMullen and the following vice presidents: Otto W. Hahn, John T. Gardner, Ed Ross, Claude M. Hall, Larry Finks, L. A. Parker, O. T. Satre, B. A. Mitchell and E. J. Newton.

Sharon Feci Wins Skating Title Again

For the fourth year, Sharon Feci, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Feci, has won the state and regional championship for fancy skating. Feci is business agent of Butchers Union 506.

Miss Feci and her skating partner, Skippy Vargas of San Francisco, won the championship at Marysville last week.

They will enter the national contests late this month in Cleveland, Ohio.

Now skating in the senior class, Miss Feci at one time was national juvenile skating champion.

Mexican Labor Guts U. S. Pay

Calexico, Calif.—Jack Donnachie, assistant chief of farm placement in the U.S. Labor Department, admitted that the use of Mexican labor has depressed the wages of American farm workers.

Donnachie told a meeting of growers and state and federal officials on farm labor problems that there is a "downward wage trend" on California farms.

Trade union leaders have contended that importation of contract labor from Mexico—as well as use of so-called "wetbacks" who entered the U.S. illegally by wading the Rio Grande River—aggravates a decline in wages and, in many instances, sets it in motion.


Old and young, all enjoy Rodeo time

Sign of the Times—

7500 Scramble For Jobs at Top Pay of $3100 a Year

New York (LPA)—When the city began taking applications for 180 city laborer jobs July 1, those in line numbered 7500. Some had been waiting in line since June 27. When the office closed for the day, 1778 applications had been filed. Pay ranges between $2700 and $3100 a year, about $52 to $59.60 a week.

The first 180 to pass the medical exam and a personal investigation will be hired in about three months, and after that vacancies will be filled from the list, which is good for four years under the city's civil service.

Reason for Traffic Jams on Bay Bridge

Since the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge was opened to traffic in 1936, nearly 64,000 vehicles have run out of gas on the bridge; another 65,000 have had to be towed off because of engine trouble, accidents, or because they were not carrying spare tires; and 38,000 had to have their tires changed, bringing the total breakdowns to date to nearly 167,000.

This is an average of more than 28 vehicles each day or, to put it another way, one car out of every 2,050 crossing the bridge has had some sort of breakdown before it got to the other end.

The Social Security Administration sends a representative to most county seats at least once a month. See your local post office for the date of his visit. You can ask him for help in filing claim for social security benefits.

Ike Names McCoy New Mediation Chief

Washington (LPA)—President Eisenhower has nominated Whitley P. McCoy of Montgomery, Ala., to succeed David Cole as federal mediation and conciliation director.

McCoy, 59, a trial examiner for the NLRB in 1938-39, has taught law at George Washington University here, and at the University of South Dakota and Alabama. He is a vice president of the American Arbitration Assn., has been an arbiter for the U.S. Conciliation Service for 12 years, worked for the National War Labor Board, has written several books on labor including "The Arbitration of Labor Disputes," published in 1946.

Prompt action by survivors entitled to benefit payments under the Social Security Act will avoid loss of benegts. Contact your nearby social security office.

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Bread and Butter Facts

Social Security 'Freeze' Endangers Insurance System

By LANE KIRKLAND

The city slickers sold Ike a gold brick—the proposal to freeze social security contributions at their present rate and to postpone the increase to 2 per cent scheduled for Jan. 1. He has described it as a "savings" to the worker.

If the President had bothered to consult the representatives of workers before he decided to bestow upon them this left-handed largess, he would have been quickly disabused of any notion that they would take to it kindly. For they have a very healthy suspicion of any sleight-of-hand moves to tamper with the financial integrity of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program.

WILLING TO PAY SHARE

Workers want soundly-financed improvements in the social security system. They know that this costs money and they are willing to pay their share, as they have repeatedly demonstrated in the past. They are not suckers enough to believe that you can get "more security for less money" or that you can make "savings" by refusing to set aside the funds which will be needed to pay your bills.

The novel concept of "savings" expressed in the President's proposal is certainly a very peculiar —not to say, startling—one. For the social security system itself is a highly-efficient type of savings, and increases in the fund which supports that system represent an enhancement of savings.

To advertise the tax freeze proposition as a "saving" is virtually the same as though the Treasury Department were suddenly to substitute for its current savings bond promotion campaign a new slogan: "Save for the future, boys —don't buy Defense Bonds! Don't join the payroll deduction plan!"

WOULD ENDANGER SAVINGS

If political huckstering were subject to the same checks and restraints as the commercial variety, this tax freeze proposal would require the attention of the Federal Trade Commission. Not only is it mislabeled when described as a "saving for workers," it would actually deprive them of a financial gain by forestalling the increase in the matching contribution paid by their employers. If the President had said that the freeze would result in "savings for the boss" he would have been much closer to the facts of the case.

A social security tax freeze, if perpetuated, would in fact endanger past savings represented by the $18 billion now held in the OASI trust fund. It would amount to the robbing of Peter to pay Paul, undermining the security of both. It would shift the costs incurred by this generation onto its children and its children's children, increasing the ultimate amount of that cost unnecessarily in the process.

Despite the fact that contributions currently exceed benefit payments, the present contribution rate is inadequate to meet the demands of even the very near future. The scheduled step-up increases to a combined employer-employee rate of 6½ per cent by 1970—plus the interest earned by the reserve fund which is now being built up by the current excess of contributions over benefit payments—will be needed just to support existing benefit levels over the long run.

If the present contribution rate were continued unchanged, benefit payments would begin to exceed contributions plus interest on the fund as early as the year 1956. The fund itself would be totally exhausted by 1967.

Thereafter, the social security system would be on a hand-to-mouth basis (which the Chamber of Commerce prefers to call "pay as you go"). The ultimate tax cost for the same level of benefits would greatly exceed the amount scheduled under the present reserve financing system, due to the loss of interest earnings.

Retired pensioners and their dependents would be utterly at the mercy of the ebb and flow of the political tides, the mercurial whim of Congress, and the temper of the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee—whose current conduct provides an excellent object lesson in what could happen to social security in such a situation. Simply substitute social security for the excess profits tax measure and the lesson as to possibilities should be clear.

Engineers' Local in $7,000 Talent Search

Portland, Ore. (LPA)—Local 17, Technical Engineers and Architects, will distribute $7000 in scholarships and awards to the winners in its "Talent Search" contest.

Myron McAllister, business representative, explained that "we are looking for the fellows who, because they were unable to finish high school or college, believe they don't have a chance regardless of their natural ability and ideas." The scholarships, he said, will provide necessary training for men who have inherent ability for engineering design, and to help meet the acuate shortage of trained men in this field.

Two complete vocational scholarships of $855 each and 10 half-scholarships of $427.50 each will go to the 12 top contestants for courses at the Oregon Polytechnic Institute. Additional awards of more than $100 will go to the next 38 top contestants.

If you are now getting social security benefits, be sure to notify the social security office of any change in address. In this way, you can avoid delay in delivery of your checks.



AFL Executive Council members Herman Winter of the Bakery Workers, William L. Hutcheson of the Carpenters, Harry C. Bates of the Bricklayers, and William Schnitzler, AFL secretary-treasurer, look over a picture of one of the first AFL Executive Council meetings.

• It's Not As Easy As It Looked •



Who's Doing Things About GOP Campaign Promises?-the Demos

Washington (LPA)—Democrats in the House and Senate have introduced bills to prod Republicans into taking action on campaign promises to expand and improve social security. The bills immediately received the endorsement of the AFL and CIO.

They provide for: extension of social security coverage to millions of persons not now covered, increased benefits, cash sickness benefits and rehabilitation services and insurance benefits for the totally disabled.

The Senate bill was introduced by Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D., N.Y.) who reminded the GOP of its campaign promises and said he hoped the Eisenhower Administration would urge enactment of the legislation. Joining him in sponsoring the measure were nine Democrats; Murray (Mont.), Jackson and Magnuson (Wash.), Humphrey (Minn.), Kennedy (Mass.), Douglas (Ill.), Green and Pastore R.I.), Neely (W. Va.), and one independent, Morse (Ore.),

Eleven Democrats sponsored the House bill: Eberharter and Rhodes (Pa.), Celler and Roosevelt (N.Y.), Dodd (Conn.), Shelley and Holifield (Calif.), Bolling (Mo.), Howell (N. J.), Elliott (Ala.), and Dingell (Mich.).

The bills would extend social security coverage to farm operators, farm workers, household workers, ministers, some public employees, members of the armed forces and some professional groups, including lawyers, veterinarians, accountants, architects, funeral directors and engineers. Lehman estimated that this would bring an additional 8½ million persons under coverage in the first month and 13 million within a year.

The annual earnings on which social security taxes would be paid would be upped to $6000 from the present $3600 and the method of computing benefits would be revised to allow for larger social security paayments to higher paid workers who have contributed more to the system. This would boost to $135 from the current $85 the maximum basic individual social security payment.

In addition, an individual would be granted a ½ per cent increment for each year he pays into the system, permitting workers who make payments over long periods of time to gain a larger benefit. Such an increment previously was provided by the Social Security Act, but was removed in 1950 amendments.

Individuals who postpone retirement beyond the age for receiving benefits will be allowed to accumulate retirement credits at the rate of two per cent a year beyond what their payments would have been. And instead of using the average monthly wage over a lifetime for computing benefits, the worker's average would be computed over his best 10 consecutive years of employment, allowing for higher benefits in most cases.

The minimum benefits would be increased from $25 to $35 and the amount retirees under 75 would be permitted to earn per month without losing benefits would be increased to $100 from the present $75.

Altogether new are provisions for rehabilitation of workers who become disabled and for payment of monthly cash benefits, computed the same way as retirement benefits, to totally disabled workers and their dependent wives and children. These payments would begin after a six-months waiting period, and would be suspended in any month in which a rehabilitated worker earned more than $100.

Also provided is a system of cash benefits, up to 26 weeks in any year, for ill or temporarily disabled workers. These payments would begin after one week off the job.

To finance the benefits, social security taxes would be raised in five steps from 2 per cent to earnings in 1954 to 4 per cent in 1961. Present rate is 1½ per cent, to be upped to 2 per cent in January unless Congress knocks out the increase.

Urging prompt action on the measure, AFL Secretary-Treasurer William Schnitzler said it "represents a sound approach to the present-day problem of social security for American workers." Schnitzler also is chairman of the AFL committee on social security.

Cohelan, East Bay Teamster, Wins Foreign Study Award

Jeffrey Cohelan, secretary-treasurer of Milk Drivers and Dairy Employes Local 302 of Oakland, Calif., a Teamster affiliate, has been awarded by the State Department a research scholarship in England. The award was made under the educational exchange program authorized by the Fulbright Act.

Cohelan was scheduled to arrive in London by July 1 to begin his assignment. This would enable him to participate in various trade union and Workers Educational Association summer schools which take place in July and August.

In September Cohelan will take up his work as a research scholar at the University of Leeds, some 180 miles north of London. His studies will be along the line of workers' education and labor economics. His activity in these fields as labor consultant for the University of California Institute of Industrial Relations has made him widely known in labor and university circles.

The grant covers adequate maintenance for Cohelan during his work of nine months or more in England, and part of the maintenance for his famimly. Jeffrey Cohelan and Mrs. Cohelan have four children, two boys and two girls, ranging in age from five to 11.

Mrs. Cohelan during her stay in England will establish contacts in psychiatric nursing as she has just completed work for a Master of Science degree in psychiatric nursing education at the University of California. The Cohelans live in Berkeley, where Cohelan is a member of the City Welfare Commission.

Cohelan started as a milk wagon driver for Golden State Milk Co., in the Oakland area, joining his local union in 1937, becoming a board member in 1938, president 1940-42, and secretary-treasurer since November 1942.

Running across a busy street at night is virtually an invitation to an accident. Pedestrians should cross only with the signals and at night should wear white and, if possible, carry a flashlight when crossing streets. Under no circumstances should a pedestrian try to "beat the signal" to effect a crossing.

Quiz on Unions:

Students Anxious to Know Answers to Labor Questions

Portland, Ore.—What do high school students think about labor? Are they friendly, or antagonistic? Are they informed, or have they been misled by the press?

Joe Blondeau, business representative for Hotel Employees 664, got the answer to these questions so far as some high school students are concerned, when he answered questions after a talk to two senior social science classes at St. Mary's Academy here.

The classes are composed of girls but Blondeau thinks their questions are typical of both sexes, and of youth generally. He thinks the questions also can help guide those who handle labor public relations and labor education programs.

The questions, Blondeau said, showed that the girls had a basic sympathy for unionism. He was able to answer most of the questions. Can you? Here are some of them:

"What is the difference between the closed shop and the union shop?"

"What is the difference between mediation and arbitration?"

"Why should workers be forced to join a union?"

"Do unions insure their members?"

"Can a union member work in an open shop without getting in bad with his union?"

"Do unions pay the people who picket? If so, do they get as much as they would if they were working?"

"My father is a union member. Would he be fined if I crossed a picket line?"

"What are employer weapons beside the lockout?"

"Do you think it fair for high school girls to be forced to join a union to keep their jobs as theater usherettes?"

"What is meant by employer's liability?"

"Do unions cause strikes more than employers do?"

"What is technological unemployment?"

"What is a productivity increase?"

"The Taft-Hartley Law forbids secondary boycotts. What are they?"

"Can a union be sued and brought into court for trial?"

"What is bargaining power?"

"Can unions or employers set up a black list?"

"You have told us all the good points about unions. Aren't there some bad ones, too?"

Ow—My Aching Feet



A busy workers convention is tough on a girl's feet as can be plainly seen in the above photo of two delegates to the Office Employes International Union convention at Cleveland. That was the only complaint of Mrs. Elenore Palyu (left) and Margaret McLean, both of Detroit, who concluded "it certainly has been an inspiration."

Making Ends Meet

Corn-on-the Cob Likely To Be Scarce and Costly

By NANCY PRATT

There may be less corn-on-the-cob, at higher prices, this July, due to a corn wilt which is sweeping through New Jersey, our top provider of early-summer sweet corn.

* * *

PRICE CUTS

Shoppers' resistence to abnormally high shrimp prices has resulted in recent price cuts on this favorite shell fish.

Shortening and margarine may also be in for new price cuts, due to a drop in the cost of soybean oil, an important component of popular salad oils and margarine.

Car stickers in Arizona and California are being used to promote more beef eating as prices remain at a bargain level, especially for lower-grade cuts.

* * *

FOOD HINTS

Cut-up meat tends to spoil faster than larger pieces. Keep ground meat or cut-up poultry in the coldest part of your refrigerator and plan to use it as soon as possible.

If corn in husks cannot be used at once, keep it refrigerated.

Eggs should always be kept covered, even in the refrigerator, as their porous shells absorb other flavors and spoil the taste of the egg.

* * *

NEW PRODUCT

A new cracker spread has been developed by the Department of Agriculture, made of whey. Whey, a milk residue resulting in cheese making, has been used for many years, mainly for cattle food. Now this rich protein supplier has been broken down by enzymes into a smooth, creamy white spread, made flavorful by the addition of cultured cream. If this spread gets consumer approval, it may join the ranks of cream cheese, cottage cheese, and sour cream as a variation.

* * *

HOUSEHOLD TIP

In humid summer weather, mildew is a common problem. While we usually remember not to leave damp clothes lying around, we sometimes forget that leather is particularly subject to mildew.

Shoes kept in a warm, damp, dark place are almost sure to mildew. Fortunately, mildew seldom seriously harms shoes. When first detected, the mildew should be washed off with soap and warm water or simply wiped off with a moist cloth, and the leather well dried before the shoes are polished.

The best protection against mildew is to keep your shoes in a light, airy place, instead of pushing them back into the darkest corner of your closet.

* * *

UNION LABEL

Be on the alert for the union label, and know where to look for it. For example, check the beauty shops in your town and patronize those shops that display the Union Beauticians' card.

And remember, a union-made broom sweeps cleaner. The blue label of the Intl. Broom & Whisk Makers' Union appears at the finish of the broom, fastened under the wire.

Rescue Game Fish

Visalia, Tulare County.—More than 13,000 warmwater game fish have been rescued from drying water holes by personnel of the Sequoia state fish hatchery during the first five months of the year.

Transplanted to suitable central California waters were 600 bluegill sunfish, 6200 catfish, 135 largemouth black bass and 105 crappie. In addition, 11,000 king salmon were rescued in the Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers.

The Department of Fish and Game announcement states that removal of game fish from the receding waters of Tulare Lake in Kings County presents a tough problem. With a muddy bottom and large populations of rough fish, all fish netted from the lake must be hand sorted before transplanting.

AFL Help for Community Chest Pledged

AFL President George Meany pledged support by the membership of the American Federation of Labor of the Community Chests of America both in their fall campaign and throughout the year.

In a letter to President H. J. Heinz 2d, of the Community Chests and Councils of America, Meany said:

HAS GREAT VALUES

"This fall the citizens of our country will again have the opportunity to support local Community Chests and other United Community Campaigns. In every city and town of America where these campaigns are held the purpose is the same—voluntary support for health, welfare and character-building services.

"Such community support has two great values. First, it provides the means whereby members of the American Federation of Labor and their fellow citizens can support many worthy causes through one pledge. Second, through federated fund raising, voluntarily developed, there is a real trend to eliminate the multiplicity of campaigns.

"The growing participation by AFL members in local Community Chests and other United Community Campaigns is due to the worthiness of the cause which they support, but more importantly the participation is the result of labor-management cooperation in local communities.

YEAR-ROUND BASIS

"In adition, the AFL has always recommended that its members participate on a year-round basis in the activities of the many local agencies which serve voluntary health, welfare and recreational needs. Trade union members now know more about the agencies because of the programs of education and interpretation which have been initiated in this field during recent years.

"Under your leadership we trust that the United Community Campaigns this autumn will enjoy full and complete success. I assure you that the membership of the American Federation of Labor, with their fellow Americans, will support these important services not only during campaign time but throughout the entire year."

Coughlin Is New Office Union President

Cleveland (LPA)—Howard E. Coughlin was elected president of the AFL 50,000-member Office Employes Union, at the fifth convention. He got 218 votes to 137 for Paul R. Hutchings, president since the union was founded in 1945. Coughlin has been business agent of Local 153 in New York since 1945, and has seen it grow from 350 members to 8400.

J. Howard Hicks, Portland, was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The following were elected vice presidents: Edward Springman, Philadelphia; John Finnery, Cleveland; George Firth, Pittsburgh; Nicholas Juliano, Newark; J. O. Bloodworth, Jr., Tampa; Ila Howard, Atlanta; Emily Byrnes, Kansas City; Marie Mann, Denver; Terry Parker, Seattle; Max Krug, Los Angeles; John Kinnick, Oakland, Calif.; Bernard Cosgrove, Gatineau, Quebec.

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U.C. Shares in Ford Fund Labor Study Grant

Madison, Wis. (LPA)—A grant of $192,000 has been given by the Ford Foundation's Fund for Adult Education to the Inter-University Education Committee, which promotes projects aimed at broadening union education programs. The money is the third and final installment of a grant from the Fund to the committee.

Eight universities will share in the grant: University of Wisconsin, where committee headquarters are located, Cornell University, **University of California,** Pennsylvania State College, University of Chicago, Rutgers University, Roosevelt College, and University of Illinois.

The committee is governed by a board of 16 directors, eight from the participating universities, four from the AFL and four from the CIO. Joseph Mire, economist on leave from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, is executive secretary.

Labor directors are: John Connors, director of AFL Workers Education Bureau; Arthur Elder, AFL Garment Workers; Arthur Goldberg, CIO general counsel; George Guernsey, CIO education department; Otto Pragan, AFL Chemical Workers; Larry Rogin, CIO Textile Workers; Brendan Sexton, CIO Auto Workers; Reuben Soderstrom, president, Illinois Federation of Labor.

Labor representatives on the operating committee which implements decisions and policies of the board are: Joseph Glazer, CIO Rubber Workers; Francis Henson, AFL Auto Workers; Jules Pagano, CIO Communications Workers.

Projects being sponsored by the committee include: community health project designed to involve labor unions in a broad examination of local health needs and resources; experimental programs for wives of union members; film package service; various programs to interest union members in foreign affairs; training of film discussion leaders; projects to develop union interest and participation in community affairs.

Union Sent Her to Job Minus an Arm, But She Made Good

New York (LPA)—Her references were good, and she had been sent by the Hotel Placement Office. But Valerie Kowalski has only one arm, and Mrs. Bertha Walters, housekeeper at the Hotel Collingwood, doubted Valerie could work as a chambermaid.

But Valerie insisted she could, and got the job. And she's proved it. She makes beds, sweeps, dusts, cleans and lugs her own linen to the service elevator.

When she was six she was run over by a locomotive near her childhood home in Buffalo, N.Y., and lost her right arm. She learned to do everything with her left hand, was trained later by the Federation for the Physically Handicapped. It was there she met Stanley Kurtyka seven years ago. Two months later they were married. Stanley also is minus his right arm.

She keeps home, sews, washes and irons. At first she worked for private families, then for residential hotels. She has justified the faith of Randolph Hagan, business agent for Local 6, Hotel and Club Employes Union.

"I just have to work a little harder," says Sister Kowalski, "but I'm used to putting a little extra into everything I do."

$225,000 Injury Award

Cleveland (LPA)—Honore Rodriguez, a track worker, has been awarded $225,000 by a jury of seven women and five men in his suit against the New York Central. He lost both legs in an accident, and charged negligence by the railroad. Rodriguez has eight children.

Make your union stronger!

37 Skilled Craftsmen Graduate to Join Sheet Metal Industry



The presentation of certificates to 37 graduates of the seventh annual apprenticeship class of Sheet Metal Workers International Association, AFL, Locals No. 281 and No. 292, took place in the Fort Wayne Hotel, Detroit, Mich. Pictured in the front row (left to right) are: Darwin A. Downing, sheet metal apprentice school instructor; Ernest Murphy, business agent, Sheet Metal Workers Local 281; Marion Macioce, business manager, Sheet Metal Workers Locals 281-292; Alfred Wurm, president, Local 281; Joseph Boguth, president, Local 292; Andrew McFarlane, president, Detroit Building Trades Council; Councilman Ed. Connor; Finlay C. Allan, business manager, DBTC, Councilman Eugene I. Van Antwerp; C. W. Spain, principal, Apprentice Training School, and J. E. Ludwig, Jr., president, Associated Metal Fabricators and Engineers.

BOILERMAKER-BLACKSMITH MERGER VOTE UNANIMOUS

Minneapolis (LPA) — When President Charles J. McGowan of the Boilermakers read the formal resolution approving amalgamation of the Blacksmiths with the Boilermakers, ratification came by unanimous vote, followed by a demonstration.

The new name is International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers.

Ratification came at a consolidated convention, with 900 delegates from the Boilermakers and 300 from the Blacksmiths.

They heard a moving keynote speech by McGowan, followed by a brief meeting of the Boilermakers' delegates, at which amalgamation was ratified, and then John Pelkofer, president of the Blacksmiths, made a moving address. The merger was agreed upon tentatively in 1950, ratified by the Blacksmiths in 1951.

The task before the convention, said McGowan, **"transcends in magnitude every previous convention. The inventive genius of our people, commonly called technological advancement, has necessitated the closing of ranks between 'an old craft and an ancient craft. The Boilermakers and the Blacksmiths have had to join forces.**

"Size, bigness and power were not the objective. The overpowering motive was one of protection to the wage earners of both crafts. New fields and new vistas now open up for us.

"We are not here as Boilermakers or Blacksmiths. We are one—all one. Let us remain steadfast and true to the tradition of the American Federation of Labor that 'an injury to one is an injury to all.'"

Pelkofer said "We have a great future as an amalgamated organization. Working together we should be able to accomplish what we were not able to achieve separately.

"We of the Blacksmiths will cooperate earnestly and honestly with President McGowan and his associated officers as they have cooperated with us. We can now safeguard more effectively the interests of the members we represent.

"With our present Blacksmiths' staff we could not take advantage of the organization possibilities that presented themselves. Now we have the opportunity to build six or seven times as great an organization in the forging industry as we had had heretofore."

Oil Firms Rob Consumers, U.S. Probers Told

Washington (LPA) — Oil companies are "lining their pockets with gold" by "picking the pockets" of dealers, jobbers and consumers, according to Paul E. Hadlick, counsel for the National Oil Marketers Assn.

He gave his views to the House Commerce Committee on July 1 as it opened hearings to find out why gasoline, fuel oil and other petroleum products have gone up, while domestic production is being cut back because of surpluses and the industry wants import quotas slapped on.

Rep. Charles A. Wolverton (R., N. J.), committee chairman, said he has decided "that perhaps the price increases have had nothing to do with competition and the free play of the market."

Hadlick charged collusion, saying the big oil firms can "manipulate" production through state agencies in Texas and other states designed to promote conservation and prevent waste. He charged the oil firms have made exorbitant profits, cited the Sinclair Oil Co., which he said had net profits of $3.7 million in 1940, and $81 million in 1948, a jump of 2037 per cent.

Edward H. Jeffries, a Detroit Democrat and member of the Michigan Legislature, called for regulation of oil companies by the Interstate Commerce Commission, to keep them from "victimizing" consumers, said he would seek state control.

Representatives of air lines, bus and transit companies, and the National Grange also supported the investigation. Lloyd C. Halvorson, for the Grange, said every penny increase in the price of gasoline will cost the farmers $100 million a year. An airline official said the recent crude oil increase will cost the airlines $12 million in 1954.

Your best friends—the union and your labor paper!

If you are not earning over $75 a month and if you are age 65 or over, your social security office will help you in filing claim for your retirement benefits.

Meany Calls for Guarding 'True Revolutionary Spirit'

Stockholm, Sweden (LPA) — The "true revolutionary spirit" must always be fostered and kept alive by the free trade union movement, AFL President George Meany said July 4 in an address to the opening session of the third World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

That spirit, Meany said, was embodied in the American Revolution which had as its basic idea the "attainment of human justice, human rights and human security."

"There is only one king who can be king by divine right, said the forefathers of my country—and that king is the individual," Meany declared. "All authority springs from him. Government must be conducted to protect him, not to enslave him. His rights are supreme and no government can abrogate them. When his government displeases him, he has the power and the right to displace it and establish a new government responsive to his will and his desires."

The same desire for human freedom, he said, was behind the French Revolution and is spurring "the rebellion of colonial peoples today against foreign exploiters."

Meany contrasted this "true revolutionary spirit" with the "counterfeit revolutions" of Communism —which he said is "not a new idea, but a throwback to ancient barbarism."

"Communism," he declared, "has robbed the individual of the right to call his soul his own. Once the Iron Curtain descends upon him, he becomes a pawn of the state. He loses all his inalienable rights. He may be deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law. At any moment and for any reason, an individual, a family, a community and all they have worked and struggled for throughout their existence may be rubbed out by order of the state which proclaims only one basic law—the law of the jungle, the law that the end justifies the means."

The Communist sword now is threatening the entire civilized world, Meany said, because Communism, aware of the danger of internal revolution by the people it oppresses, "cannot tolerate the competition or even the co-existence of free nations and free economies."

The defenses to meet this threat "must be economic, social and political, as well as military," Meany said. "We must practice justice while we preach it. We must establish freedom from want and insecurity. We must help economically underdeveloped countries to become self-sustaining.

"We must fight the evils of colonialism and stand up for the right of dependent countries to self-determination. We must help to extend human rights and free trade union rights to the people of all nations. We must never accede to the appeasement of injustice or dictatorship."

Hotel Workers To Award $500 Racial Prize

New York—An award of $500 will be given annually to the person or organization judged to have done most to promote better race relations, the Hotel and Club Employes Union, Local 6, AFL, announced.

The decision to establish the yearly award was made by the union's representative assembly, whose 270 members represent the 27,000 Local 6 members employed in New York City's hotels and clubs.

The award will be made during National Negro History Week (the second week in February) each year to promote observance of the accomplishments of our Negro citizens—as well as to accord recognition to the individual or organization which has made a signal contribution to better racial understanding.

In announcing the establishment of the award David Herman, union president said the union had decided to make it an annual event because the harmony which exists between the Negro and white members of the union working side by side has convinced the union's officers there is no need for the existence of racial tensions.

321 Days Needed for Average NLRB Case

The average time the National Labor Relations Board requires to settle a case is now 321 days, George Bott, NLRB general counsel, reported. In 1950, he said, the procedure took 448 days.

Monterey County

Labor News

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1953

IKE'S ECONOMIZERS---MORE RED INK NOW THAN EVER

Washington (LPA)—The business "geniuses" who were going to cut taxes and balance the budget too, wound up the fiscal year 1953 on July 1 with a deficit of $9,389,000,000—largest deficit in peacetime history. Only recently they had forecast a deficit of about $8 billion.

And far from coming anywhere near balancing the budget in fiscal 1954, Treasury experts now forecast a 1954 deficit of $5.6 billion, although Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.), budget expert, said that even if the excess profits tax is extended for six months, as President Eisenhower has asked, "there will be a substantially larger deficit than had been estimated." Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.) saw a $7 billion deficit for 1954.

Treasury Secretary Humphrey nevertheless promised a balanced budget by July 1, 1954, but warned the public not to look for miracles. "Difficulties of this size cannot be cured overnight," he said.

And Treasury officials, who will have to raise about $6 billion in new money in the next three months, now talk of having to lift the legal debt limit.

Five Top-Level Federal Labor Jobs Remain To Be Filled by the GOP

The resignation of Paul Herzog of the National Labor Relations Board, which took effect June 30, raised the number of vacancies in top federal labor positions to five. Herzog served for eight years as head of the five-member panel that administers the Taft-Hartley Act.

Whitley McCoy of Montgomery, Ala., nominated to be director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, succeeds David Cole, who resigned May 1. The Senate must confirm the nomination.

McCoy, 59, has been in labor-management arbitration work for many years and has served as vice president of the American Arbitration Association. He formerly was a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board.

Still vacant and awaiting White House action were appointments to posts of three Assistant Secretaries of Labor and solicitor for the Department of Labor.

The Assistant Secretary jobs have gone unfilled since the Republicans took office.

The solicitor's office has been without a top man following the death two months ago of Harry Routzohn, who served as the department's chief attorney for only one month.

Meantime, it became virtually certain that by Sept. 1 a majority of NLRB members will be Eisenhower appointees when Paul Styles announced that he would resign from the board by that date to accept a position in Toledo, Ohio. The term of John Houston will expire in August. He is not expected to be renamed. The other NLRB members are Abe Murdock and Ivar Peterson.

Wages in May Reach Record

Wages reached an all-time high in May, the latest date for which figures are available, the Federal Reserve Board announced.

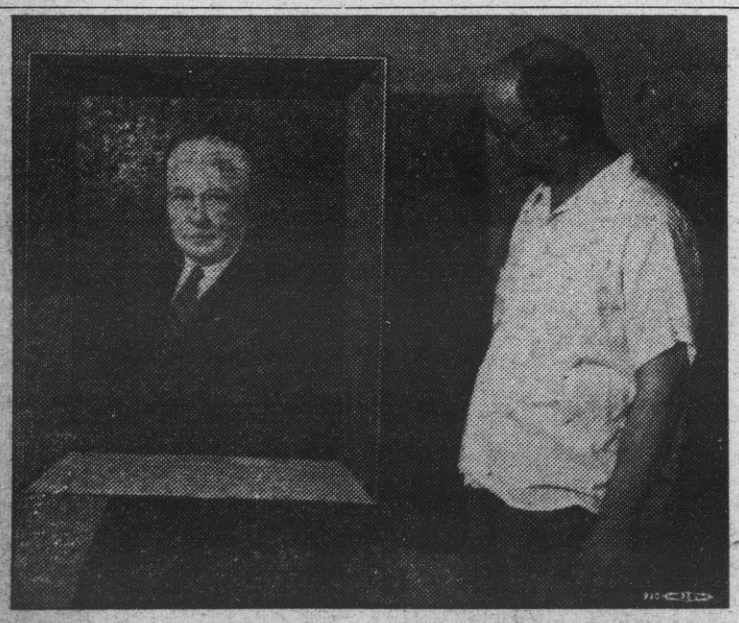
The board reported that average hourly earnings amounted to $1.75 and weekly wages averaged $71.05. Those figures represented increases of six and seven percent, respectively, above the levels of a year earlier. In terms of 1947-49 dollars, the weekly paycheck equaled a little more than $60.

"The substantial gain from a year ago," the FRB said, "reflects generally higher wage rates, the increase in nonfarm employment and a longer work week in manufacturing."

Manufacturing accounted for the bulk of the increase in employment over the year—900,000 in durable goods industries and 300,000 in nondurable.

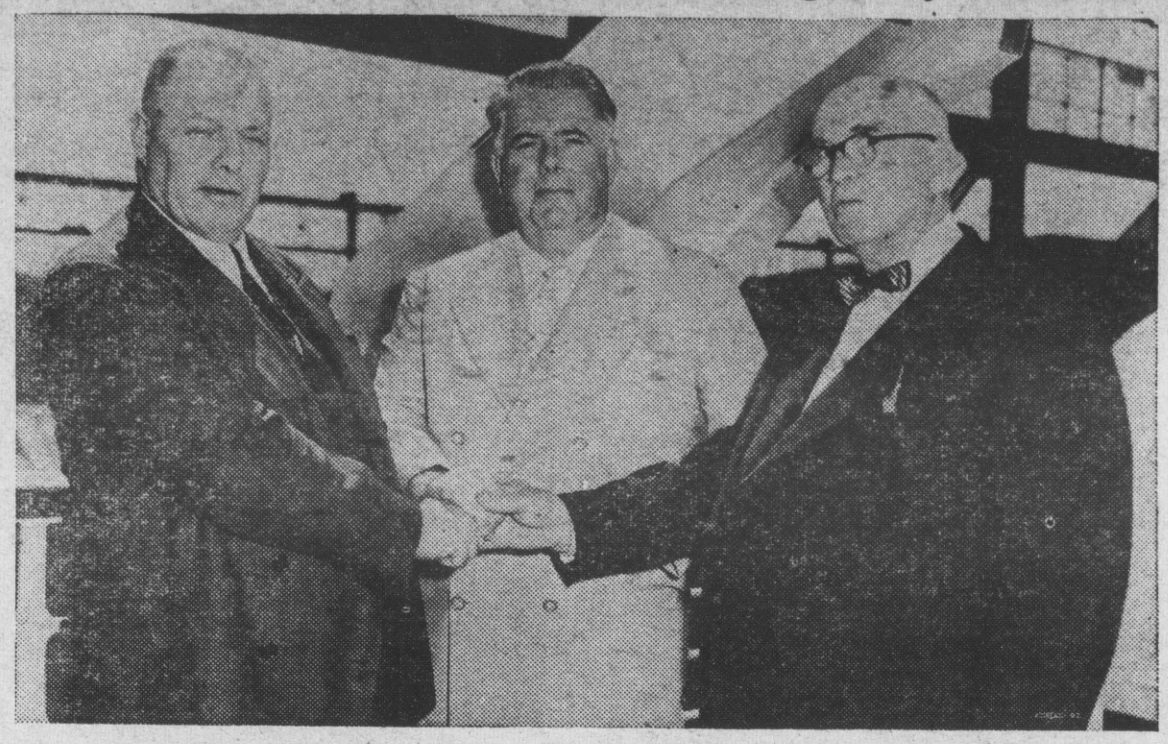
"The labor market," according to the FRB, "has continued strong and fairly well balanced, with some tightening reported in localities that earlier had been adversely affected by reduced output of civilian goods."

There's a new union of dollars in Washington. How's your union, brother?



PORTRAIT OF THE CHIEF — Paul J. Jakimow of Peoria, Ill., takes a last critical look at the oil portrait he painted of his union's president, Charles J. MacGowan of the AFL Boilermakers. The painting, made from a series of 15 portraits, was presented to MacGowan at the Boilermakers' and Blacksmiths' merger convention in Minneapolis. The artist, who came to the U. S. in 1951 as a Displaced Person, is also a member of the AFL Musicians. (LPA)

AFL Delegates to Third World Congress of ICFTU



Shown aboard the SS Queen Mary as they sailed for the Third World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Stockholm, Sweden, are (left to right): AFL President George Meany, Vice President William C. Doherty and delegate William J. McSorley, president of the International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers.

Turnabout for 'Papa Joe' Liebstein

Not long ago the New York Times carried a colorful feature story about "Papa Joe" Liebstein, "probably New York City's oldest waiter," who sat down at his own table in the New Campus Restaurant to be served a birthday party by his customers in honor of 88 years of useful living.

A member of Local 1, Brother Liebstein was treated like a king that day, and the Times story told how it was:

One of several customers he has served daily for that time was host at the luncheon. Others were guests, and numerous newcomers who have been served by him only 20 or 25 years dropped by to wish him happy birthday and present gifts.

Puffing a cigar and wearing a diamond stickpin presented to him by a restaurateur more than 60 years ago, the peppery whitehaired waiter accepted congratulations with the observation that his grandfather had lived to be 104 and he expected to do the same.

"And by then, maybe restaurant prices will be back to reason," he said. "They're too damned high now, I don't know why people stand for it.

"Drinks should be cheaper, too" he declared, sipping his bourbon. He slammed the glass down on the table. "I ordered STRAIGHT bourbon," he exclaimed. "Who put that gingerale in it?" He glowered at a guilty-faced fellow waiter who went scurrying to the bar for an undiluted replacement.

Behind his back, the proprietor of the restaurant, Morris Hirsch, shrugged his shoulders resignedly.

"Can't hold him down," Mr. Hirsch said. "'Three years ago he collapsed on the job, and as he was carried out to the hospital said 'save my station for me.'

" 'Sure, sure,' I promised, never dreaming he'd be able to work again. But he got over two serious operations and came back, and has been on the job ever since."

Papa Joe selected rare prime ribs of beef from the menu.

"Used to serve this for 15 cents, years ago," he scowled, "and the meal included soup, vegetables, cup of coffee, and a piece of pie."

The Campus Restaurant proprietor shrugged his shoulders again. "He's telling the truth," he said, "I used to be a waiter myself. But times have changed. Food costs more, and labor."

He dropped his voice. Standing nearby were two representatives of Waiters and Waitresses Union Local No. 1.

"O.K., no offense," said Sam Ehrlich, the union's business agent, jovially. "We're just here to make sure nobody bothers you for serving Papa Joe."

And serve Papa Joe the boss did, cutting a slice of birthday cake that proved to be too small, though. The guest of honor wanted a bigger one—and got it.

Barney Bratman, host at the party, has been lunching at Papa Joe's table for 35 years, and would not dream of going anywhere else.

"None of his regular customers would," Mr. Bratman said. "What a sharp wit, wat jokes. We don't know how he does it—carrying those heavy trays around. But he insists on carrying a full load, and here's hoping he'll be able to forever."

Meany Labels Security Group 'Tool of Interests'

The Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, composed of state unemployment insurance officials, "has become a tool of reactionary and special interest groups whose basic purposes are not consistent with those of a sound unemployment insurance program," George Meany, AFL president, charged in a letter to Newell Brown, director of the New Hampshire Division of Employment Security and chairman of the conference.

Meany turned down an invitation to attend the conference's 17th annual meeting. In his letter, Meany said "it is not appropriate for such an organization to engage in lobbying activities."

A copy of the Meany letter, written just before he sailed for the ICFTU Congress in Stockholm, was sent to presidents and secretaries of state and local bodies by Nelson H. Cruickshank, director of social insurance activities for the AFL.

In his accompanying memorandum, Cruickshank noted that the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies had most recently lobbied in support of the Reed bill which would turn over to state agencies, for administrative purposes, funds collected from the federal unemployment tax—over and above the administrative grants voted by Congress.

The measure also favors employers through tax reductions, makes increases in jobless pay benefits more difficult in a number of states, and makes state agencies still more independent of policy standards established by the U. S. Department of Labor.

In his letter, Meany said:

"First, let me make it clear that, since the present unemployment insurance program as enacted by Congress is a federal-state program, it is our purpose and desire to cooperate in every way possible both with the U. S. Department of Labor and the state agencies in carrying out the purpose of the program, which is to assist wage earners to tide over periods of involuntary unemployment by the payment of reasonable benefits.

"We have urged that the state branches of the American Federation of Labor take active part in improving the state legislation and that they cooperate in every constructive way with the agencies responsible for administering the various state programs. It is our hope that cooperation with the state directors and their agencies on the part of our state federations can be continued and improved.

PURPOSES NOT CONSISTENT

"Over the past several years, however, the record of the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, in the legislative field particularly, has been such as to convince us that it has become a tool of reactionary and special interest groups whose basic purposes are not consistent with those of a sound unemployment insurance program.

"Furthermore, while we feel that it is entirely appropriate for a group of administrators responsible for the administration of state programs to form a professional organization which, by the exchange of views and experience, provides means of improving the administration of the various programs, it is not appropriate for such an organization to engage in lobbying activities.

"From the evidence of the record of the past and present activities of the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, it is clear to us that this organization has permitted itself to become a front organization for reactionary employer interests. It would only be confusing to the members of Congress before whom its representatives appear, to the general public, and to the membership of American Federation of Labor unions if we were to become identified in any way with the activities of such an organization.

"In acquainting the membership of the Interstate Conference with my reply to your request, I should appreciate your assuring the state directors of our earnest desire to cooperate with them through appropriate channels in every effort to strengthen and improve the unemployment insurance program."

Know your rights under the Federal social security program. If you are planning to retire, it is important that you file claim at the proper time to avoid loss of benefits.